

FACIA SYSTEM

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a fascia system for buildings.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The fascia is that part of a building where the roof terminates. Typically, most residences and relatively small commercial or industrial establishments utilise a sloping roof. The roof structure includes a plurality of rafters upon which a solid material such as plywood or the like is placed. Subsequently, the weatherproofing component is applied on top thereof, the weatherproofing component typically being asphalt tiles although sheet metal, shakes, other types of tiles, and composite materials are also utilised.

At the point where the rafters terminate, a fascia is installed and extends along the ends of the rafters. Typically, the fascia may comprise a wooden member and/or a metal member secured thereto. Typically, the metal member comprises an L-shaped member which extends along the fascia and inward towards the soffit portion of the eaves.

One of the problems which is frequently encountered is the finishing arrangement such that water will not run back underneath the shingles or other material at the end of the roof. As a result, specially designed drip edges are frequently installed; however, many of these drip edges do not function properly. Thus, it is well known by installers of gutters or eaves troughs that there is almost inevitably some water leakage between the back wall of the gutter and the fascia.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a fascia arrangement wherein the problem with an effective drip edge is obviated.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a fascia system wherein a fascia member has an adjustable height.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a fascia system which is aesthetic and easily installed.

According to one embodiment of the present invention, there is provided a fascia system comprising a first member and a second member. The first member has an upper section designed for securement to a roof, and a drip edge formed at an extremity of the upper section. A second lower section includes a generally vertically extending portion, the generally vertically extending portion having first cooperative locking means associated therewith. The second member comprises a fascia member having second cooperating locking means at an upper portion thereof, the first and second cooperative locking means being designed such that first cooperative locking means hold the fascia member in position. The second member has a generally planer central portion and an inwardly extending flange arrangement at a bottom end of the generally planer portion which abut an adjoining soffit.

According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided in a building having a roof structure including a plurality of sloping rafters extending beyond an adjacent wall structure and which sloping rafters terminate in a fascia, and wherein the rafters are covered by a roofing material, the improvement comprising a fascia system, the fascia system comprising a first member and a second member, the first member having an upper section secured to the rafters under the roofing material; a drip edge formed at an extremity of the upper section; a second lower section which includes a generally vertically extending portion, the generally vertically extending portion having first

cooperative locking means thereon, the second member comprising a facia member having second cooperative locking means at an upper portion thereof, the first and second cooperating locking members being engaged such that the facia member is held in position, the second member having a generally planar central portion; and an inwardly extending flange arrangement at a bottom end of the generally planar portion, the inwardly extending flange abutting an adjoining soffit.

The facia system of the present invention would typically be manufactured from a sheet metal such as aluminum or an aluminum alloy which can easily be formed into various configurations by known methods. However, it is also within the scope of the invention to use other materials such as a plastic material which could be extruded or otherwise formed into the desired configurations.

As aforementioned, the facia system includes a first member and a second member, the first member being secured to the building structure and being designed to support the second member in a desired position.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the first member has an upper section which is designed for securement to the roof; the upper section would conventionally be secured to the top of the sheet material attached to the rafters - i.e. plywood or other composite products. The means of securing may be any conventional including adhesives and/or mechanical securement means such as nails and screws.

The upper section preferably includes a first portion which is secured to the roof as aforementioned and a second portion which will extend outwardly from the roof edge and which second portion is slightly angled with respect to the first portion. It is the second portion which will terminate in a drip edge.

There is also provided a lower section which includes a generally vertically extending portion designed to lie adjacent the facia's structure. The lower section also includes a portion extending between the drip edge and the vertically extending portion. In this respect, from the drip edge, there is preferably provided a segment which extends upwardly to thereby define the drip edge and which will then extend downwardly to the generally vertically extending portion.

The generally vertically extending portion will have a first cooperative locking means associated therewith. Although many such cooperative locking means can be envisaged, one of the simpler structures will include a formed hook and recess engagement as will be discussed hereinbelow.

The second member is the portion which covers the facia. At the upper end, the second member is provided with a second cooperative locking means designed to engage with the first cooperative locking means. Conveniently, as aforementioned, this may be provided by a plurality of hooks or projections extending outwardly from the second member and which are designed to engage within recesses or other supports of the first cooperative locking means. An advantage of such an arrangement is that they may easily be provided by conventional metal forming equipment well known in the art.

Preferably, the first and second cooperative locking means are adjustable with respect to each other such that they may be engaged in different positions. By so doing, a arrangement is provided for differing facia heights.

The second member, as aforementioned, actually forms or covers the facia and as such, is substantially plainer in nature although certain embossing or spacing projections may be provided as will be discussed with respect to the preferred embodiment.

At the lower end, the second member is provided with an inwardly extending portion which is designed to abut the soffit structure of the building. In a particularly preferred arrangement, the lower portion of the second member is formed to have a recess at a lower extremity defined by the lower portion of the vertically extending wall and the inwardly extending portion. This recess may be utilised to accommodate a tensioning member which is secured to the roof structure and which engages the lower portion of the second member. To this end, the tensioning member will, as aforementioned, be secured to the roof structure and have a downwardly extending portion designed to seat within the aforesaid recess. Preferably, the tensioning member has a certain resilience and to this end, may be provided with a sinusoidal portion to provide the desired resiliency.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Having thus generally described the invention, reference will be made to the accompanying drawings illustrating an embodiment thereof, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a facia and soffit arrangement employing the facia system of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the facia system of the present invention illustrating the mounting thereof on a portion of a structure;

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 with the structural components of the housing structure being removed and showing the adjustability of the system.

Figure 4 is a side elevational view of the upper member of the facia system;

Figure 5 is a perspective view thereof;

Figure 6 is a side elevational view of the lower member of the facia system according to the present invention;

Figure 7 is a perspective view thereof;

Figure 8 is side elevational view of a tensioning member which can be utilised in the fascia system of the present invention; and

Figure 9 is a perspective view thereof.

Referring to the drawings in a greater detail and by reference characters thereto, the fascia system of the present invention is generally designated by reference numeral 10 and includes a first upper member designated by reference numeral 12 and which will now be referred to.

First upper member 12 includes a first upper section generally designated by reference numeral 11 and which includes a planer portion 14 which is designed to lie adjacent to a roof structure R such as is employed in a conventional house. In this respect, it will be understood that under normal circumstances, planer portion 14 will lie on the roof under the shingles or other similar roof covering.

From planer portion 14, upper section 11 includes a downwardly inclined portion 16 which is angled with respect to planar portion 14 and which terminates in a drip edge 18.

From drip edge 18, first upper member 12 has an upwardly and inwardly extending portion 20 which ensures the proper formation of the drip edge 18. Subsequently, there is provided a second downwardly inclined portion 22 which terminates in an outer vertical wall 24. The material forming first upper member 12 then is folded to have an inner vertical wall 26 which is formed with a plurality of recesses 28.

A second lower member generally designated by reference numeral 30 has an upper portion 32 with a plurality of hook-shaped projections 34 formed therein.

Second lower member 30 also includes a main planer portion generally designated by reference numeral 36 and which has formed therein a plurality of spacer projections 38. At its lower end, second lower member 30 has an inwardly extending flange portion generally designated by reference numeral 40. Inwardly extending flange portion 40 has a first horizontal section 42 which joins an arcuately upwardly concave portion 44. There is thus formed a cavity generally designed by reference numeral 45. At the end of arcuate section 44, there is provided a diagonally upwardly extending section 46 which terminates in a horizontal end portion 48.

As shown in Figures 2 and 3, there is also provided a spacer and tensioning member 50. Spacer and tensioning member 50 is illustrated in Figures 8 and 9 includes an upper planer portion 52, and a sinuous section generally designated by reference numeral 54 and which includes a plurality of arcuate sections in an overall S-shaped configuration. Sinuous section 54 terminates in a bottom section generally designated by reference numeral 56 and which is designed to seat within cavity 45.

In use, and referring to Figures 2 and 3, first member 12 is installed in a position on roof R with planar portion 14 being secured thereto by suitable means (not shown). This thus provides a drip edge 18 with vertical portions 24 and 26 lying parallel to a fascia board F.

Spacer and tensioning member 50 may then be secured in the position to fascia board F and subsequently, second member 30 is hung in a position and supported by first member 12. In this regard, hook shaped projections 34 are engaged within recesses 28 of first member 12. Spacer and tensioning member 50 seats within cavity or a pocket 45 of second member 30 and maintains a tension on second member 30 to ensure hook shaped

projections 34 remain engaged within recesses 28. Inwardly extending flange portion 40 is arranged to engage a soffit S and support one edge thereof. The other edge of soffit S is supported by a suitable supporting member 74 as is disclosed in co-pending application serial number

As seen in Figure 3, the structure of the present invention provides for adjustability as shown in the dashed and complete lines. Thus, a first member 12 may assume different positions depending upon the particular engagement of projections 34 with recesses 28.

It will be understood that the above described embodiments are for purposes of illustration only and that changes and modifications may be made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.